

## TWO SNAGS AT THE CLUB.

WOMEN CALL ON MRS. VAN KLEVER FOR INFORMATION.

Perplexities on the subject of Committee Perplexities on the subject of a Missing Motion Picture. Mrs. Van Klever, who was in the room of the Parliamentary Practice Club, "I begin to be afraid of them."

"Nancy," said Mrs. Van Klever, glancing about her as they entered the room of the Parliamentary Practice Club, "I begin to be afraid of them."

"Aren't you?" asked Mrs. Van Klever.

"Yes, they are. I don't know what in the world I was thinking of when I deliberately became their President."

"I thought you did beautifully last week. You quite crushed several of them."

"That's just what I was doing. I was just myself all week that, at any rate, I had settled that Mrs. Pigg."

"Hogz, Katharine."

"Oh, yes. I don't know what possesses me to call her Pigg. But I've been in it and I'll never get over it. At any rate, I think I had settled that woman and now I just wish you'd look at her! She's as unabashed as a full moon in a cloudless sky. Oh, dear!"

"Never mind, Katharine."

"I can't help it. Sit where I can see you, Nancy. I've a sneaking idea they'll get the best of me today. They look as if they had it in their teeth."

"The meeting will please come to order," said Mrs. Van Klever a moment later, as she sat down on the Chairman's table.

While Mrs. Organized Smith was reading the minutes of the last meeting, Mrs. Van Klever, who was sitting in the front row, scribbled something on the flyleaf of her "Roberts' Rules of Order." Then she tore the leaf out, folded it, and handed it up to Mrs. Van Klever. The President of the "Parliamentary Practice Club" read it with a peculiar smile. It ran:

"Give them their heads to rub, my dear. You find them more and more amusing."

Mrs. Van Klever mediated a moment, then smiled contentedly at Mrs. Van Kommensense. Mrs. Organized Smith read the names of the distinguished guests, sat down with a flourish of papers, and there was a pause.

"Mrs. Chairman," drawled a nasal-voiced woman in the second row.

She was large and commanding. Mrs. Van Klever remarked the fact that she wore large diamond earrings.

"It's Mrs. Wellknown," whispered Mrs. Smith in quite a hurry.

Mrs. Van Klever bowed in the woman's direction and said: "Mrs. Wellknown, please direct and assist the ladies." Mrs. Wellknown, who was seated next to Mrs. Van Klever, and her whole expansive person breathed a consciousness of her own importance. "I would like to inquire whether the Committee on Entertainment—"

"There is no Committee on Entertainment," said Mrs. Van Klever.

"I beg your pardon?" said Mrs. Wellknown in a tone of surprise.

Mrs. Van Klever repeated her statement.

"No Committee on Entertainment!" Mrs. Wellknown seemed to make a visible physical effort to accept this statement. "Very well," she resumed, "I would then suggest that the Reception Committee—"

"There is no Reception Committee," said Mrs. Van Klever.

Mrs. Wellknown put up her forehead as if to add her hearing and once more inquiringly regarded the Chairman's motion. However, no Reception Committee was forthcoming, and, after another struggle, the lady went on:

"In that case, Madam President, I think it would be wise to instruct the Press Committee—"

"There is no Press Committee," faintly remarked Mrs. Van Klever.

"No Press Committee!" exclaimed Mrs. Wellknown, forgetting to draw, and rolling her eyes heavenward. "Very well," she went on that and furiously. "I consider, and I think that every experienced club woman here present will agree with me, that it is quite time that the Reception Committee on Rules—"

"There is no Committee on Rules," said Mrs. Van Klever doggedly.

Mrs. Wellknown gasped and clutched at a chair for support.

"May I," she began in a pleading tone, "may I inquire, Madam President, what committees maintain this club?"

"Certainly," responded Mrs. Van Klever, with a return of her customary confidence. "We have no committees at all."

"Wh-what?" exclaimed Mrs. Wellknown. "Impossible!"

"Not at all!"

"No committees! This is unheard of! I have belonged to fully twenty-five clubs at one time and another, but never, Madam Chairman, have I known of such a case. We have now been organized for over three weeks. Am I correct?"

"It seems more like three years," said Mrs. Van Klever, "but I dare say you are right."

"Three weeks since we organized and not a single committee appointed! May I ask, Madam Chairman, the cause of this delay?"

"You may."

"Well," said Mrs. Van Klever, inquiringly. "Well!" from Mrs. Wellknown.

"You wish to ask something?"

"I did. I wish to ask the cause of this delay."

"I am the cause of the delay. What did you wish to ask me?"

Mrs. Wellknown stared at the Chairman. She was puzzled, she was lost, she was at a loss. She wouldn't admit that she didn't see the point. "I want to know," she said, "what committees have been appointed?"

"This is the first time any one has asked for a committee," said Mrs. Van Klever.

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## GREAT FLOODS IN FRANCE.

Damage Along the Rhone.

PARIS, Nov. 1.—The Seine has been rising for some days and has now reached a point that is causing much alarm. Low-lying structures along its banks have been flooded, and much damage has been done above and below the city. The river is now overflowing its banks, and the water is rising rapidly.

Most of the other rivers in France are also out of their banks. Many of the villages along the Rhone are completely surrounded by water. At Vallabrue, near Tarascon, the inhabitants have been driven from their homes by the rising waters and are now camping in the cemetery, which is on high ground.

Near Nimes, Department of Gard, and Bourg, Department of Ain, a number of bridges have been swept away. Families living on low ground near the Rhone have taken refuge in the upper stories of their houses, the lower portions being inundated.

The district northeast of Nimes has suffered extensively. The Bishop of Nimes has gone on a boat to render what assistance he can to the distressed villagers. The inundations are so extensive that the postman has to use boats to deliver the mail.

The plain of the Rhone is an immense lake. The water is so deep that only the tops of the trees are visible.

The roads northeast of Bourg are impassable. The inhabitants are terrified, as the flood gives promise of increasing.

The islands of Viot and Barthelasse, in the Rhone, near Avignon, capital of the Department of Vaucluse, are completely submerged. The inundation is causing much distress, and the property loss will be heavy.

## BISMARCK'S REVELATIONS.

Count Herbert Dismisses All Responsibility for the Articles.

BERLIN, Nov. 1.—Count Herbert Bismarck made his appearance in Berlin yesterday and had an interview with Chancellor Holnstein. He dismissed all responsibility for the recent articles in the "Hamburger Nachrichten," his father's personal organ, revealing the fact that from 1884 to 1890 Germany maintained an understanding with Russia contrary to the terms of the Dreikaiser treaty. If the Government does not take measures to ascertain the exact origin of the revelation, Count Bismarck said, he will be forced to publish a statement in the Reichstag on Nov. 8, in which he will demand that explanations of the Russian-German agreement be the first matters to come up for debate.

## THE VENETIAN CASE.

Dike and Stanley Express Their Confidence in Lord Salisbury's Attitude.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—Sir Charles Dike, M. P., who is a well-known authority on foreign affairs, and Sir Stanley, M. P., who is a well-known authority on the Anglo-Venetian boundary dispute, that he entertains no doubt of the validity of Great Britain's title to the territory up to and including Point Barina.

Mrs. Henry M. Stanley, M. P., has also written a letter in which he touches upon the same subject. He states that he has been studying the Venetian case, and he is confident that the British title is valid.

## THE POPE AND AMERICA.

Raising the Diocese of Buffalo to a Metropolitan See.

LONDON, Nov. 1.—A dispatch from Rome to the Central News says that the Pope will raise the Diocese of Buffalo, New York, to a Metropolitan See. The Pope is expected to make this announcement at the end of the month.

The Pope is said to be appointing Bishop Keane, ex-rector of the Catholic University at Washington, a titular Archbishop.

## EUROPEANS IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

The Case Orders Special Precautions for Their Safety.

BERLIN, Nov. 1.—Just before the Czar started from Darmstadt for St. Petersburg his Majesty telegraphed to the Admiral of the Russian fleet at Odessa, instructing him to take special precautions to guard the Europeans in Constantinople, and also sent a copy of his telegram to the British Ambassador at Constantinople. The Czar is expected to arrive in St. Petersburg on Nov. 10.

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## THE LATE CARDINAL HONENLORE.

He Was Acquainted with the Pope and a Doub